

hand to damage the environment. It is wrong.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DANNY BROWN, THE 2002 KANSAS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2002 Kansas Principal of the Year, Danny Brown. Mr. BROWN currently serves at the Fort Scott High School in Fort Scott, Kansas. For almost 3 decades Danny Brown has demonstrated outstanding educational leadership and has humbly served his community and students.

In a letter recommending Brown for the honor, an associate wrote: "Danny's contributions to this community, to the school district and, most of all, to the students are immeasurable."

I, for one, am heartened to hear stories of educators like Danny Brown who live a life dedicated to serving their communities and helping students reach their dreams.

As Oswald Spengler once said, "The influence of a genuine educator lies in what he is rather than what he says."

I am pleased that Mr. BROWN is being properly recognized for his exceptional performance and character, and I want to add my congratulations to this outstanding educator.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY ROLE MODELS WEEK

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, children need role models in their communities to help guide them through the many challenges that they face. Although we often hear inspiring stories about famous individuals, we seldom publicly recognize exceptional local people with whom children can more readily relate.

The Michigan-based R.A.R.E. foundation has established a program to recognize outstanding community residents and teach children about their work ethic, their values, and their accomplishments. The foundation helps children develop a sense of purpose and hope for the future by providing inspirational examples of ordinary people with traditional jobs who make extraordinary contributions.

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I will introduce legislation today that encourages communities to adopt similar programs and support the goals and ideals of a national community role models week. Establishing an annual week for identifying role models in our local communities would remind us how each individual, no matter his or her profession, plays a vital role in the progress of this Nation.

JUST SAY NO TO SOCIAL SECURITY PRIVATIZATION

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, all we need to do is just say no to privatization of Social Security. When it comes to reforming Social Security, our Republican majority thinks they can fool the American people. They think that if they avoid the words like "privatization" that they will be able to mask the true nature of their Social Security reform proposal.

In Texas we have a saying, "You can put lipstick and earrings on a hog and call it Monique, but it's still a pig." No matter how much our Republican friends want to dress up their proposal to disguise its details, it is still privatization.

Privatization schemes, let us just be honest and call them what they are, would cut benefits, increase administrative costs and place the financial health of the Social Security program in jeopardy, but suddenly, in an election year, my colleagues changed their tune. They will do anything, say anything, to hide their true agenda. This is a cynical ploy, and the American people will see through it.

Let us call privatization what it is, and a pig, a pig.

DEMOCRATIC PRESCRIPTION FOR SENIORS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of seniors who want prescription drug coverage, today, tomorrow and always, and against those who do not.

Earlier this month, Congress Daily noted that a Senate Democrat prescription drug bill would sunset in 2010. That is right, the bill would just stop in 2010. Sorry, seniors, no more drugs for them after 2010. That is plain wrong. First, Democrats block permanent tax relief. Now they want to block prescription drug coverage.

Well, seniors better start saving, so when their benefits end, they will have money to buy their drugs. Hold on, just think about this. That is impossible, because the same Democrats refused to permanently extend tax relief so people can save some of their own money or even empower seniors to save their own money in a medical savings account.

Well, two-thirds of seniors have prescription drug coverage. The one-third going without are my top concern. Our Republican plan will help, and help them for life.

RAISING THE DEBT LIMIT

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to remind my colleague on the other side of the aisle who just spoke that the Republican prescription drug plan would do nothing about bringing down the cost of prescription drugs, which is what is killing Americans, all Americans, and their plan would cover 6 percent of seniors instead of 90 percent of seniors who would like to have that kind of coverage.

However, today, the House is going to vote on a very dangerous and cynical provision that allows the Federal Government to break its own spending limit, takes hundreds of billions of dollars from the Social Security trust fund. What they would like to do is hide this plan from the American people and what they want to do is to hide this debate today without leveling with the public, and what will happen is their plan is to take the Nation back into the deficit, raid Social Security.

We oppose this plan. We support a responsible budget. What we need to be trying to do is to make investments in national security, protect Social Security and Medicare, do something about prescription drugs and the cost of those drugs in the United States today.

It is time for the House Republicans to be straightforward with the American people. We need a responsible, honest, bipartisan budget. We need to protect and strengthen Social Security and shore up the prescription drug benefit, meet our obligations today so that our kids are not saddled with debt.

PRaising THE EFFORTS OF NUCOR CORPORATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Nucor Corporation, our Nation's largest steel producer, for their investment in South Carolina and their commitment to our economy, our families and our environment.

Nucor's commitment to South Carolina's economy is demonstrated by its 4 statewide facilities professionally managed by Mike Gurley of Darlington, Ladd Hall of Berkeley, Lynn Strock of Florence and Jeff Carmean of Swansea. These facilities have produced more than \$1 billion in total sales and have contributed more than \$1 billion in total investment back into the State's economy.

Nucor has touched the lives of families across the Palmetto State by employing 1,800 skilled and dedicated South Carolinians and by contributing over \$300,000 in education scholarships last year.

A leader in environmental stewardship, Nucor is the largest recycler in America, and through efficient fuel consumption, Nucor saves enough energy annually to power the city of Los Angeles for 8 years.